(b) It is too early to assess the full potentiality of the basin.

Pending applications for LPG

658. SHRI VITHALBHAI MOTIRAM PATEL: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a number of applications are pending for the supply of LPG in Ahmedabad, Vadodara, Surat, Rajkot and other cities of Gujarat;

(b) if so, how many applications have been registered for LPG gas in the above cities uptill now;

(c) how many applicants have so far been supplied LPG and how many are still pending; and

(d) by when all the applications for the supply of LPG are likely to be cleared?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BRAHM DUTT): (a) to (d) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Functioning of ONGC

659. SHRI VITHALBHAI MOTIRAM PATEL: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there was a proposal under Government's consideration to decentralise the functioning of ONGC;

(b) whether there was also a proposal under Government's consideration to set up the offices of the ONGC in Assam and Gujarat headed by senior officers; and

(c) if so, what decision Government have taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BRAHM DUTT): (a) to (c) With a view to decentralise the functions of ONGC, the Commission has been reorganised into six regional business centres including one in Gujarat with headquarters at Baroda and another in Assam with headquarters at Nazira.

Laying of HBJ pipeline

660. SHRI SURESH KALMADI: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the experts committee headed by Shri P. C. Bhasin had warned that it is dangerous to lay H.B.J. Pipeline on the highly vulnerable Thane Creek bridge; and

(b) if so, what were the reasons to overlook the report of the above committee?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BRAHM DUTT): (a) The HBJ Pipeline does not cross the Thane creek bridge.

(b) Does not arise.

Oil struck in on shore in Orissa

661. SHRI M. KADHARSHA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether work has begun on shore in Orissa to find out oil;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(c) the names of other shores where such on shore work has started during 1986 or is likely to start in 1987?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BRAHM DUTT): (a) Yes, Sir.